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The Southwestern

Wednesday, December 10, 2008 · Volume 100 Number 11

Pancake supper set for Wednesday

By Alexandria McAtee
Staff Reporter

Everyone loves free food. Everyone loves pancakes. Mark the calendar for Wednesday, December 10. The annual late-night pancake breakfast/supper is held from 10 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. in the

Memorial Student Center Ballroom. The all-you-can-eat breakfast/supper is hosted by SWOSU President John Hays and other administrators and professors who fix and serve the meal. This is a great time to take a break when studying for finals and enjoy some free pancakes.



Nadalin Mendoza holds a copy of the classic Christmas cartoon *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

Students recall holiday traditions

By Bethany Schmidt
Staff Reporter

Christmas songs play softly in the background as people bustle about downtown. Glimmering lights shine through store windows as couples kiss under mistletoe. Students study late into the night for the fear of finals is in sight. As decorations are hung and toasts are made students cannot wait to get away for Christmas break. "I can't wait for break. It is a well needed time spent with my friends and family," said Alyssa Showman, a senior accounting major from South Haven Kansas. Every student celebrates Christmas in a different way. Old holiday traditions are kept and new ones are made. "My favorite tradition is when grandpa hides his dentures on the Christmas tree and the first person that finds them gets to open a present," Maddie Stiener, a senior business major from Mustang, said. Kayla Argo's family goes to Branson each year.

"We still get together at my aunts house and each year she paints the inside of her house a different color. Last year she decorated the tree with stuffed birds dyed green. We always drink Wassail too. It's apple cider with red-hots," Argo, a freshman English major from Plains, Kansas, said. "My family has the best Christmas traditions," said Cierra Musick Jennings, a senior theatre major from Weatherford. "One of my favorites is the unspoken rule that no one turns on the TV Christmas day. It's great just spending that time with family." Tiffany Tuggle never believed in Santa Clause. "Mom used to say, Santa is not real, just so I knew she wasn't lying about who Jesus was," Tuggle said, a senior theatre major from Marlow. "My favorite part of Christmas is watching *The Nutcracker*: the show, ballet, cheesy cartoon, doesn't matter I just love it," said Tuggle. With Christmas tradition comes Christmas cheer so smile big because it is almost here!

End-of-semester news

School sponsors YouTube contest

Southwestern is sponsoring a YouTube Video contest with cash prizes being awarded to the top three videos. Theme of the contest is "My SWOSU" with deadline for entries being January 16. Videos must be no longer than 90 seconds. A complete set of rules is available at <http://www.swosu.edu/students/YouTube-contest.pdf>

The first place prize is \$150, while second and third places are \$100 and \$50, respectively. To enter, tag the video to the Southwestern Facebook Fan Page or bring a DVD to the PR & Marketing Office in Room 205 of the Administration Building. Videos can also be emailed to brian.adler@swosu.edu. For more information, call 774-3063.

Rankin Rowdies T-shirts are available



Kayla Schmidt (left) and Malory Smith model the 2009 version of the Rankin Rowdies t-shirt, which is now on sale for \$5 in the office of the Dean of Students, Stafford 214. When students wear any Rankin Rowdies or Bulldawg Nation t-shirt to a men's or women's SWOSU basketball home game, the student gets a free drink, compliments of the Collegiate Activities Board (CAB), and is eligible for special halftime activities and giveaways throughout the season.

Winter vacation up for grabs

A chance to win a winter vacation package to a famous Mexico resort is just one of the prizes awaiting interested bidders in a special silent auction sponsored by members of the Southwestern Athletic Training Staff. The athletic training staff, along with members of the fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE), have accumulated a number of prizes ranging from the before mentioned trip to Cabo Villa Beach Resort in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico to 30 GB digital media players, DVD players and various gift baskets from local restaurants and businesses.

The silent auction will be hold simultaneously with the groups Chili Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 13 in Room 101 in Rankin Williams Fieldhouse. Both events start at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased by contacting any member of the Athletic Training Staff. The men and women's basketball team will be playing Lone Star conference rival Angelo State University that same evening in the gym. Tipoff for the women's game is at 6 p.m. with the men to follow at approximately 8 p.m.

Dates to remember

Final Exams begin Thursday, Dec. 11. Exams continue through Wednesday the 17. The Fall Semester ends Dec. 19. Grades should be available on this day. The Spring 2009 Semester begins Thursday, Jan. 8.

Conversation Starters

1 Two twelve-week-old puppies received much press attention in Virginia after they slept next to a toddler missing from his babysitter's house. The young boy was missing for 21 hours. He was cold and wet, but thanks to the puppies, he managed to survive.

Source: foxnews.com

2 After trying to conceive a child for 50 years, a 72-year-old woman in India gave birth to a daughter. The woman underwent in vitro fertilization to become pregnant.

Source: msnbc.com

3 "Winter Wonderland," performed by Eurythmics, made the top of the list of most performed songs. American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers presents this list annually. Also on the list were Nat King Cole's "The Christmas Song" and The Pretenders' Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

Source: ascap.com

NEWS

Costa Rica trip is more than a vacation

By Keely Ralston
Staff Reporter

For some students graduating in May, that Saturday cannot come quick enough.

For the 15 students going to Costa Rica for their 3-week trip of a lifetime, it seems like eons away.

A plane will whisk those students away to Grecia, Costa Rica the day after graduation and return approximately 3 weeks later. There they will be immersed in the Hispanic culture, learn and observe traditions and do a bit of sight seeing.

For 4 others, the trip will last well into August.

Sterling Clark, Allison Smith, Ryan McAdory and Keely Ralston will be attending Costa Rica’s summer term that will begin around May 12 and end around August 29.

For Sterling Clark, junior Spanish major from Dumas Texas the trip is more than a vacation.

“I’m looking forward to applying what I have been learning in the classroom in their culture.”

Susan Al-Jarrah, Spanish instructor and sponsor of the trip convinced him to stay for more than the 3 weeks, according to Clark.

“And I’m very glad she did,” he said.

Allison Smith Junior

Spanish major from Mustang will also be attending summer school and she says,

“Costa Rica will be the experience of a lifetime. We will be able to completely immerse ourselves in their culture and language. That is something that can’t be learned in the classroom.”

Sophomore criminal justice major from Midwest City Ryan McAdory said, “I’m going into law enforcement and with Spanish being the fastest growing language in Oklahoma and surrounding states, it’s almost imperative that police officers have some basic understanding of the Spanish language.”

Faculty to host Christmas tour benefits Bartels

Several Southwestern employees are involved in a Christmas Home Tour on December 14-15 to benefit Kevin Bartel, director of the Fine Arts Center.

A medical fund has been set up at Bancfirst for Bartel, who has been battling cancer for the past couple of years.

Twelve homes in the Weatherford area will be on the tour, according to coordinator Janice Sperle.

Ticket prices are \$12 before December 14 and tickets are available at the Business Office, Bancfirst, Downtown Diner, Davis &

Morley Properties, Magill Real Estate and Bokay’s (Hydro).

Tickets are \$15 on the tour days and available at 1218 Birch or 1416 Timbercreek.

The tour will be held from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, December 14, and 5-8 p.m. on Monday, December 15.

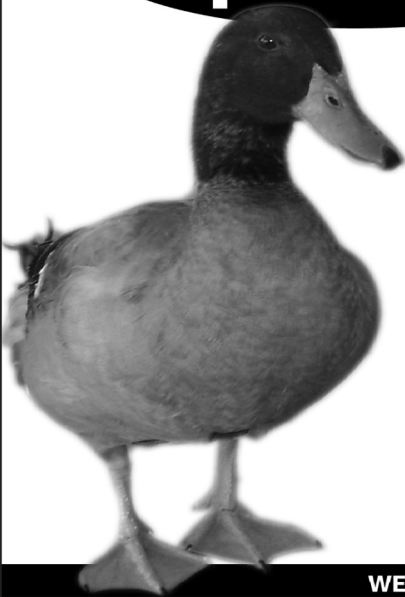
Homes on the tour include:

- Mike & Debbie Brown 1219 Sycamore
- Drs. Stephen & Mindy Burgess 519 E. Arlington
- Joe & Glenna Johns 1416 Timbercreek
- Greg Morley 1213 Birch
- Kenny & Nyla Watson 105 Clover Ln.
- Milan & Karen Davis 1514 Pine Ave.
- John & Midge Gerber 1218 Birch
- Chris & Misti Gregston 1902 N. Lark
- Dr. John & Linda Hays 610 Oak Dr.
- Loren & Kim Liebscher 1002 Old 66 Rd.
- Jason & Gail Glassey 1809 N. Lark
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THE SOUTHWESTERN is the student newspaper of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. It is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semesters, except during holidays and finals week. Students in the editing class serve as section editors, and students in the news gathering and reporting class serve as writers.

The editorial board meets every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. in the journalism lab, Campbell 211.

THE SOUTHWESTERN encourages comments from the student body, faculty, and administration in the form of letters to the editor. All letters must include a name for consideration; however, the name may be withheld upon request.

The opinions expressed within signed editorials are the opinions of the writers; the opinions expressed in unsigned, boxed editorials are the opinion of the staff. Neither is necessarily the opinion of the university administration, staff or faculty.

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NEWS

Library has full spring schedule planned

By Keely Ralston
Staff Reporter

The Al Harris Library has some exciting things planned for the 2009 spring semester and the continuance of the Speakers and Musicians Series is one of those things to look forward to. The library has already host Dr. Doug Watson, who is best known for

“Conversations with Will Rogers,” Greg Rodgers a member of the Choctaw, does his storytelling in both traditional and contemporary ways, and last was Edgar Cruz. Mr. Cruz, the only one of the musicians of the series filled the Fine Arts Center with acoustic guitar stylings. Still to come for the spring are Dr. Kenneth

Hensley, a doctor at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation has been exploring ways to prevent one’s own immune system from causing damage to the nerve cells in the brain. For more information on Dr. Hensley one can visit his website at www.omrf.org/omrf/Research/13/HensleyK.asp.

Rounding out the Speakers and Musicians series is Clifton Taulbert. Mr. Taulbert is a lecturer and author, whose books get their base from his childhood in the Mississippi Delta. For more information about any of the upcoming events, students can pick up a brochure at the Al Harris Library.

Students wonder about graduation requirements

By Keely Ralston
Staff Reporter

Students planning to graduate in the spring should have received the best email of their lives saying they have met the requirements for graduation. But what exactly are those requirements? According to Joyce Teghtmeyer, graduation/eligibility clerk, students should apply for graduation after they have finished about 60 hours. Students may do that in the registrar’s office in room 108 of the Administration Building. Generally a graduation check does not need to be completed until a student is classified as a junior. This is something an advisor will help with. For most majors the graduation requirement is 120 hours, but for others is it is more. Music is 143 and pharmacy is 195. For questions or concerns students may stop by and see Joyce in the Administration Building, call her at 774-3029 or email her at joyce.teghtmeyer@swoosu.edu.

PBL attends leadership conference in Tulsa

Phi Beta Lambda officers attended the State Fall Leadership Conference at the Metro Campus of Tulsa Community College on November 1, 2008. Officers attending were President Kody Tucker, Executive Vice President Kelsey Zybach, Secretary Dana Nightingale, Treasurer Alyssa Showman, and Vice President for Fundraising Kelsey Boone. PBL’s 2008 conference theme was “Get the Edge.” The conference agenda included leadership workshops and keynote speaker Kyle Eastham, motivational speaker and Black Belt karate expert. Southwestern student fees helped pay the registration fee for the officer team to attend the fall conference. Future Business Leaders of American-Phi Beta Lambda is the largest business career student organization in the world, with postsecondary division numbering over 11,000 college students. Beginning with the first high school division in 1937, the first collegiate chapter was chartered in 1958. Phi Beta Lambda is a national organization that helps prepare students for business careers.

College News Briefs

• AAUW holds meeting in town

The Weatherford branch of the American Association of University Women will have its December meeting this Thursday, December 11, at 1219 Sycamore in Weatherford. All members and anyone interested in joining the AAUW chapter are invited to attend. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and will include an ornament exchange and food/recipe exchange. Everyone is asked to bring a food item and the recipe. Child care will be provided on site. AAUW Vice President of Membership Faye Henson said the group will also be recognizing its scholarship recipient.

• Purdue auctions naming rights

There is a person in each family that is nearly impossible to shop for. Purdue University has an opportunity for stressed-out shoppers - the naming rights to recently discovered species. Seven types of bats are needing names, as are two types of Amazonian turtles. The money raised for the auction will support research, according to an article in the *Chicago Tribune*.

Interested persons may begin bidding Monday. Stephen Colbert fans may know that Colbert has a species of spider named for him - the *Aptostichus stephencolberti*.

• Biola wins “rocking” contest

Biola University in La Mirada, California, was announced the winner of *US. News and World Report’s* YouTube video contest. The contest was named “Why My School Rocks.” The Biola video garnered over 300,000 views on YouTube. The two students responsible for the video, both Biola sophomores, won a spring break trip courtesy of *US. News*.

• Navy beats Army in rivalry game


The Midshipmen from Navy crushed the Black Knights of Army 34-0 Saturday in the 109th match-up between the two schools in one of the best football rivalries in the nation. Army unveiled new uniforms for the game, sporting pants, helmets and jersey numbers in camouflage and the words “Duty, Honor, Country” written across the back. President George W. Bush attended the game, presiding over the coin toss and even kicking a teed football nearly 15 yards before the game. Though the Black Knights did not manage to score, Army senior Collin Mooney broke the school’s single-season rushing record Saturday, finishing with 1,339 yards total for the season.

• WCC hosts drive for Soles4Souls

Schools in the West Coast Conference have been invited to participate in a shoe drive that will benefit Soles4Souls, an organization that collects shoes to donate to disaster victims in the United States and overseas. Pepperdine University students are working to collect 500 pairs of shoes by February 17. Pepperdine’s Student Athlete Advisory Committee handed out flyers at the recent basketball game on campus. Pepperdine is located in Malibu, California. The winner of the WCC contest will be announced in March at the men’s and women’s basketball championships. The winning school will earn a pre-game party. Other schools in the WCC include Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington; Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles; the University of Portland; Saint Mary’s College in Moraga, California; the University of San Diego; the University of San Francisco; and Santa Clara University.

• Roanoke students shop off-campus

Students at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia, can now use their pre-paid Maroon Cards at locations in the local area. The cards can be loaded with funds by students or parents either online or at the school’s business office. Locations accepting the Maroon Card include a gas station, a pharmacy, and a pizza restaurant.



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OPINION

Christmas gets too politically-correct

Since when did a Christmas tree become a holiday tree?

Lately, many stores have chosen to take the word "Christmas" out of their stores completely and replace it with "holiday."

Since when did it become politically incorrect to wish someone a Merry Christmas? Believe it or not, this aggravates some people.

Since when were children not allowed to sing songs about the birth of Jesus in their school "Christmas" plays? Now, they must only sing songs about Santa Claus and his reindeer.

Some people believe that we should make

Christmas more of a secular holiday.

Well here is what I have to say to them: The Christmas holiday was founded because of the birth of Jesus in a lowly stable over two thousand years ago.

Nowadays, the Christmas holiday is commercialized and I believe that people have forgotten the purpose of why we celebrate.

Don't get me wrong, I love the season and all that goes with it. I still, at 21 years old, get a gift from Santa every year.

I love putting up my "Christmas" tree and making snow angels. I love giving gifts and spending time

with my family.

What aggravates me is that fact that our society is always trying to take Christ out of Christmas. But I say to you, please remember the reason for the season.

Let us take this time to reflect upon why we celebrate. Let us be thankful for our friends and family and all of our many blessings.

Let us not get caught up in the craziness of this busy time. Instead, let us reflect upon the things that really matter in life.

--Ashley Slemp

Big screens are not the reason for the season

Unless you have been hiding under a rock - if you have, I don't blame you - you know that the economy is not in great shape at the moment. Many Americans were looking forward to "Black Friday," hoping the mad rush of shoppers would help the financial status of the country. Well, the mad rush of shoppers killed a man.

I'm not sure that's what anyone had in mind.

The mad rush of shoppers has always been slightly out of hand. This year, they went too far, trampling a Wal-Mart employee. Jdimytai Damour died while hundreds of shoppers stepped over the 34 year-old in an attempt to be the first to put that plasma-screen television in their shopping carts.

This event disgusts beyond words. Human beings killing another just to save \$50 on an item that will be marked down even further in January.

I don't believe that the Wal-Mart incident was an accident. I don't understand how you can walk on another person and not understand what you are doing. I can't comprehend how a Hannah Montana doll can be more valuable than another's life.

Some blamed large corporations for promoting such exciting deals, for inciting a frenzy. Perhaps these corporations over-estimate the shopper. It would be ridiculous to think that people can act like people and be considerate of others.

This incident is not isolated, although it is the most

on the line

by Lysie Baskin

extreme. It is not uncommon to hear stories of men punching women in the face over a television or a woman ramming a man in the back with a shopping cart just to grab that digital camera that's on sale. I heard these exact stories while running a cash register at a sporting goods store in Oklahoma City Friday morning.

Last year, while working at the same store, I witnessed customers knock over an elderly woman to get to a rack of sweatshirts. As I went to help her off the floor, I was relieved to see she was not hurt and maintained a smile throughout the entire experience. She hopped back up and ran to grab her sweatshirt.

Mr. Damour was not so fortunate.

Why? Because our kids (or we) want stuff. That stuff is expensive. To have these gifts for the under the tree, we have to tear stores' doors from their hinges to save a few bucks.

What sort of message are we sending to our children? That it's okay to want stuff you don't need, stuff Santa Claus can't afford because we can act like animals on Black

Friday?

What happened to teaching kids about the real reason for celebrating Christmas? Whether you have religious beliefs or not, surely there is something more significant about the holiday than shiny bicycles and a \$25 microwave.

If we feel so strongly about the televisions and DVDs, perhaps we should dedicate a holiday to these items. But leave Christmas alone. Christmas should be celebrated with peace and joy, not shopping carts and empty pockets.

Our economy is not in such dire shape that we need to shatter glass doors to save it. Our kids are not so bored we must trample a man to entertain them. I blame no one for Mr. Damour's death other than the shoppers whose feet stepped on him and whose hands knocked him down. I blame each individual who saw Mr. Damour on the ground and did not attempt to help him. But few will see it this way. They will blame Wal-Mart, the police, security or even Mr. Damour.

And the results will be devastating to the nation's conscience.

Readers, this is my final column for *The Southwestern*. The university has blessed me with numerous opportunities to succeed and grow as a student and as an individual. I have been truly blessed by this college experience and will be honored to earn a diploma from this institution in May.

Thank you, good luck, and God bless.

Lysie Baskin

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FEATURES

WEEKLY REVIEW

Quantum of Solace delivers plenty of action and gadgets

Bond is back and this time it is personal. *Quantum of Solace* picks up right where *Casino Royale* left off - bloody, bruised and heartbroken. After the death of ladylove, Vesper Lynd, Bond is adamant about finding the shady group who blackmailed her to betray him. *Quantum of Solace* has everything a good Bond movie needs and more: cocktails, cars, gadgets, boats, girls, evil villains and of course style. The technology sets this movie apart from all of the rest of the bond series. There is a Microsoft touch table that scans marked bills and automatically traces it to a hotel halfway across the world, where Bond shows up mysteriously hours later. There is also a huge video wall in M's (played by Judi Dench) office that works as a telephone/database. The technology is truly remarkable throughout the whole movie. What makes the movie is the out of this with just enough wit and more than enough action. There is constant action from the opening car chase scene to the ending credits. Of course a Bond movie wouldn't be a bond movie if it didn't have the gadgets. There is a scene where Bond takes pictures from a long distance and those pictures are immediately scanned and sent back to him with names and history. Then there is Bond. Daniel Craig works the big screen as easily as Sean Connery ever did. His stunts were almost super human, then he would fall, trip or drop his gun to remind you that he is in fact human. He has a flair for luxury, just watch the Bolivian scene. Then there is his charm, women seem to just melt from the moment his piercing blue eyes hit them until the moment he drives away in his sports car. This movie brings a whole new side to James Bond.



He is complicated, vengeful and above all suave. The perfect combination for a must see film. Plus, he likes cocktails. -- Jessica Limestall



Sasha's not strong, but is sexy

My guilty pleasure: Beyonce's new CD, "I Am ... Sasha Fierce." Who is Sasha Fierce? Who knows. But the catchy lyrics and bass-driven minor chord progressions should have you dancing by the end of the song. The new album is divided into two separate CD's; much like other R&B artists have done. It is unclear the point Beyonce is actually trying to get across. The split of songs was not necessary, hearing that her songs are not strong enough to stand on their own. Her songs may be a bit emotionally confusing, jumping from "If I Were a Boy" to "All the Single Ladies" on to "Diva" then "Ave Maria." Beyonce worked on this album for a year, but it doesn't show. Yes, some songs are fresh, catchy and sound great, but there is no continuity throughout the album, which is almost what attracts me to "I Am ... Sasha Fierce." This album may be for you; with a fresh take to R&B along with a bit of classic songs, and new edgy lyrics, you may want to add this whole album to your collection or with iTunes, select a few songs that just get your motor running. If you enjoy big-haired, big-voiced, powerful songs, and sexy lyrics then you'll enjoy Beyonce's new Album "I Am... Sasha Fierce". Guilty as charged. -- Alexandra McAtee

BULLDOG BITES

Readers may submit recipes to be published to thesouthwestern@swosu.edu.

Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Muffins
from allrecipes.com

- * 3/4 cup white sugar
- * 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- * 2 eggs
- * 3/4 cup canned pumpkin
- * 1/4 cup water
- * 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- * 3/4 teaspoon baking powder
- * 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- * 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- * 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- * 1/4 teaspoon salt
- * 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- * 1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Grease and flour muffin pan or use paper liners. Mix sugar, oil, eggs. Add pumpkin and water. In separate bowl mix together the baking flour, baking soda, baking powder, spices and salt. Add wet mixture and stir in chocolate chips. Fill muffin cups 2/3 full with batter. Bake in preheated oven for 20 to 25 minutes. Yields 12 small muffins.

This Week in History

- December 10, 1869 - Women residing in the territory of Wyoming receive the right to vote.
- December 11, 1985 - Ted Kaczynski - better known to America as the Unabomber - kills his first victim with an exploding mail package in Sacramento, Calif.
- December 12, 1913 - *The Mona Lisa* is recovered in Florence after it had been stolen from the Louvre over two years ago.
- December 13, 1950 - James Dean - 5 years before starring in *Rebel Without a Cause* - appears in a commercial for Pepsi. He and other teenagers are seen dancing around a jukebox.
- December 14, 1799 - George Washington dies at his Mount Vernon home.
- December 15, 1967 - Forty-six people die when the a bridge crossing the Ohio River collapses during rush-hour traffic.
- December 16, 1775 - English novelist Jane Austen is born in Hampshire, England.

A 1987 FBI sketch of the Unabomber.

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FEATURES

The thought counts, even in last-minute Christmas gifts

By Whitney Burkett
Staff Reporter

Have you been busy with finals and have not had time to spend a lot of time picking out gifts? No worries. Here are some ideas that are clever and will not let you seem like you did it last minute.

You can never go wrong with things that everyone needs. Homemade gifts are also a good idea because it shows thought.

For the man in the house: razors, shaving cream, socks, aftershave, and deodorant all in a basket or bag.

For Mom: you can never go wrong with candles, or a picture frame with a recent

picture of you two or your whole family.

Movie lovers: basket with DVD, popcorn, person’s favorite candy and drink, and possibly a blanket.

Car obsessed friends: car cleaners, air fresheners, wax kit, or steering wheel cover.

Beauty girls: fingernail polish, nail file, pedicure/ manicure sets, and facial mask in a basket.

Cooking crazy: oven mitts, cookie or cake mixes, spatula, whisk, small kitchen towels, or cutting board.

Sports Fanatic: Favorite team t-shirt, small football, baseball, basketball, Highlight DVD, sports jersey.

Around the holidays

many stores carry decorative containers that work well for baking goodies and giving them for gifts. Try any of the Chex mix recipes, they are quick and easy to make. Decorated cookies are also a good idea and gift to give.

If you are really strapped for time, gift cards are always good to give, and most places sell them. Walgreen’s has an assortment of different cards that can be used at BassPro, Starbucks, iTunes, Shell, and many restaurants.

No matter what you decide to get your family and friends for the holidays it is the thought that counts, even if it may be last minute.

Dorm decorating made easy

By Jessica Limestall
Staff Reporter

As the fall semester is wrapping up and a majority of the campus is getting ready for finals there is not much time for a breather. Decorating your dorm for the holidays is an easy and fun way to keep your sanity. Of course you will be working with a limited space and funds so, you will have to get those creative juices flowing.

There are a few guidelines that every good student living the dorm should follow.

Follow the rules of the dormitory: Since you are in such a small space there are a lot of precautions to follow. No candles, real trees and breakable ornaments. At Southwestern, residents are not allowed to decorate their windows that will distinguish their room from any of the others.

Also, if you are a resident in a Southwestern dorm you are allowed to

have lights in your rooms but they can not be touching the ceiling tiles..

Decorate with caution: Dorms are notorious for vandalism. So use inexpensive decorations such as wrapping paper on your door.

Brittany Stewart, a senior psychology major said, “ A lot of girls will decorate their doors so the hallway feels more festive.”

Do not decorate without permission: Make sure your roommate is okay with it. You should also clear it with your resident advisor

There are still a lot of fun clever ideas that you can do.

Small artificial lighted trees: You probably want to keep it small because you don’t have a lot of room. If you buy it pre-decorated you will have instant Christmas.

Paper snowflakes: Everyone knows it was their favorite thing to do back in kindergarten. You can also add a little extra with spray paint and glitter.

New and classic Christmas movies capture students’ hearts

A Christmas Story - the must-see laugh-out-loud comedy
“You’ll shoot your eye out!” -- Mother

Whitney Burkett: “Everyone has had that one Christmas where you asked for that one forbidden thing for Christmas and everyone tells you that you will not get it. Ralphie tries everything to try to convince his parents and Santa Claus that he should get a Red Ryder B.B. gun. It is one of those Christmases that everything that could go wrong goes wrong. *A Christmas Story* almost makes you like your family a whole lot better and glad that your dad is not hanging up a leg for a lamp.”

Dana McBee: “My favorite Christmas movie is *A Christmas Story* because of its smart humor, outrageous events and family-centered story line.”

Courtney Hinz: “It is a tradition for my brother and I to watch it every year on Christmas Day.”

A Charlie Brown Christmas - hope for the hopeless
“I just don’t understand Christmas, I guess.” -- Charlie Brown

Val Schmidt: “It makes me feel like a kiddo again.”

It’s a Wonderful Life - the timeless classic
“Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.” -- Zuzu Bailey

Chris Hebensperger: “There are very few true American films, and *It’s a Wonderful Life* is one of them. It tells you a story that touches the inner-most part of life. It has helped people appreciate life more, and some that family is more important than anything in this life.”

Megan Franks: “It has a great message.”

Home Alone - every kid’s dream
“He’s only a kid, Harry. We can take him.” -- Marv

Adam Phillips: “I wished that stuff would happen to me when I was left alone. Plus, it’s one of the funniest movies I’ve ever seen.”

Christmas Vacation - be glad you’re not a Griswold
“I don’t want to spend the holidays dead!” -- Ellen Griswold

Staci Campbell: “It is so hilarious! It makes me cry every time I watch it.”

Kevin Krows: “I like this because I love Chevy Chase and because this movie is hilarious.”

Jonna May: “It is so funny; it reminds me of my family.”

Elf - the new classic
“The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.” -- Buddy the Elf

Bethany Schmidt: “Elf is an incredible Christmas movie that can be enjoyed all year long. Buddy the Elf’s joyous attitude inspires people young and old that anything is possible if you will simply believe. Political barriers are broken down as people all over New York City begin to believe. The movie shows that one man can make a difference, that there is a lot more to life than the mundane routine of work, and that hope is always there - you just have to grab hold of it.”

Michael Smith: “I think Will Ferrell is hilarious and full of Christmas spirit.”

Trey Hester: “It’s seriously one of the most hilarious movies of all time, and I like Will Ferrell.”

Hayley Schaffer: “This is my favorite not only because of Will Ferrell, but the story that it sends to the audiences.”

Amanda Carter: “I like it because it is touching, funny, family-friendly and has the holiday spirit all in the same movie!”

Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer - claymation magic
“He’ll be a hero after this!” -- Clarice

Jamie King: “My favorite Christmas movie is *Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer* because he saves Christmas and all the Misfit Toys get a home.”

How the Grinch Stole Christmas - Jim Carey goes green
“Blast this Christmas music. It’s joyful and triumphant.” -- the Grinch

Jessica Limestall: “The main reason I love it so much is because it’s a Christmas class and makes you feel young-at-heart. It is also very different because it is very clean-humored, which is a rarity in today’s society. The movie also has that certain humor that only Jim Carey could have brought. The directors, screenwriters and actors worked hard to keep that innocent flair that Seuss demands and they rocked it!”

The Santa Clause - a kid-friendly feature
“We’re your worst nightmare. Elves with attitude.” -- E.L.F.s. leader

Rebecca Witt: “It’s a cute comedy movie.”

Krystal Wright: “Santa likes his hot chocolate shaken, not stirred.”

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SPORTS

Hunt is on for new coaches

By Tina Zweischer
Staff Reporter

Football and soccer fans may be wondering about the search for new head coaches, since the announcement of soccer coach Joe Bradley and football coach Ryan Held resignations.

“There is no shortage of prospects,” said Athletic Director Todd Thurman. “Southwestern is a highly respected and honored program and a lot of coaches want to work here.”

Thurman and the committee of seven members are currently interviewing candidates. Human resources are sending us stacks of good, quality candidates says Thurman.

The positions are sought after because of the programs’ history and prestige, not to mention their predecessors success and the hope that they too may succeed.

Bradley spent eight years as head coach after joining the program as an assistant in 2000.

“I have enjoyed coaching here at Southwestern,” Bradley said. “However the time has come for me to focus on other opportunities that will allow me to spend more time with my family.”

Bradley, and his wife Julie, have two children, a son, Joe,(2) and a daughter, Jaden, (10 months).

Under Bradley’s guidance, Southwestern has had 15 players who have earned all-conference recognition; including another 32 players who were honored with selection to the league’s all-academics teams.

Ryan Held, the head football coach who a year ago brought back-to-back winning seasons at Southwestern and a share of the Lone Star Conference Division title has resigned to pursue opportunities awaiting him in the business world.

“I want to thank Southwestern for the opportunity they gave me to coach football here,” said Held. “It has been a privilege and an honor to work with the many coaches and players over the last four years. I will truly miss my association and relationship with them. I am proud of the many successes we have achieved together as a team since I’ve been here.”

Thurman is also coaching a currently successful basketball team. Their record is 5 wins and no losses. In between out of town games Thurman is putting time into the role of Athletic Director. Thurman’s goal is to be successful at coaching and building other coaches’ programs as well.

“The fun thing about being the Athletic Director is that I get the opportunity to help other coaches get what they need to accomplish their goals,” said Thurman.

Women’s basketball loses to UIW

By Sports Information

Southwestern’s two-game road swing through south Texas ended on a sour note as the Bulldogs were 81-61 losers to the University of Incarnate Word in women’s basketball action Saturday.

The Bulldogs, now 2-5 on the season, will return home for their next two games. Southwestern will play Angelo State University on Saturday, Dec. 13 and Abilene Christian University on Friday, Dec. 19.

Incarnate Word controlled much of the game throughout thanks to their pin-point shooting. The Cardinals finished the game making 29-of-58 of their field goal attempts for an even 50 percent. UIW also shot well from long distance making nine three-point shots in 20 attempts for 45 percent. They sunk 14-of-21 shots from the free throw line for 67 percent and turned the ball over four fewer times than Southwestern.

Southwestern did not shoot their normal percentages as the Bulldogs made

just 38% of their shots connecting on 24-of-64 attempts. Southwestern entered the game shooting better than 43% from the field. The free throw line, which has been troublesome most of the season, again caused difficulties for the Bulldogs. Southwestern made just seven-of-15 attempts for 47%. It is the third time this season that Southwestern has missed more free throws than it has made in a game.

Still even with the shooting woes, Southwestern did have some bright spots. Guard Tobey Beer returned to action and played well despite a painful ankle injury. Beer, who did not play in the Bulldogs last game against Texas A&M-Kingsville, led Southwestern in scoring with 14 points. She made five-of-11 shots from the field and was three-of-five from the three-point line.

Lucy Ramon was the only other Southwestern player to reach double figures against UIW. Ramon finished with 10 points on four-of-13 shooting and made two-of-six from the free throw line.



Kendall Smith and the rest of the Bulldogs have been undefeated in all the home and away games they have played so far this year. They beat Texas A&M Kingsville by 74-67 last week. (Photo by Kyle Wright)

Men’s basketball stays undefeated

By Sports Information

Southwestern pushed its season-opening win streak to six straight games thanks to a crisp shooting effort and collected a 74-67 victory over Texas A&M-Kingsville.

The victory was Southwestern’s first road victory over A&M-Kingsville since the Bulldogs joined the Lone Star Conference in 1997. Southwestern had lost all five previous road meetings with the Javelinas before this year’s breakthrough. Southwestern now has taken victories on every court in the LSC.

Sharpshooter Kendall Smith continued his red-hot streak pouring in a career-best 29 points to lead the Bulldogs in scoring. Smith, who has averaged 23.0 points in his last three outings, made eight-of-11 shots from the field and five-of-seven behind the three-point arch.

Jordan Frosch had his second straight ultra-productive game on the offensive end scoring 16 points. Frosch made seven-of-12 shots while providing the perfect inside

counter to Smith’s three-point bombs.

Southwestern led for much of the game only to see the Javelinas start the second half with a surge. TAMUK erased a three-point halftime deficit and stood in front 54-47 with 11:07 after a dunk by Flavio Milam.

The Bulldogs then switched into a higher gear and left TAMUK gasping. Southwestern outscored the Javelinas 23-4 over the next 10 minutes. Southwestern had the game well in hand when Clarke Hale buried a three-pointer to put the Bulldogs in front 70-58 with 1:05 to play.

Southwestern shot 25-of-51 from the field for 49% and sizzled from three-point range making nine-of-19 for 47%.

Defensively, Southwestern forced 22 turnovers while committing just 13 on its end. Abdullah Lawal again was a bright spot on the defensive side coming away with seven steals.

The Bulldogs will next play on the road Tuesday against Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo.

BCS announces Bowl Schedule

By Lynsie Baskin
Editor-in-Chief

The much-anticipated Bowl Schedule was announced Sunday by the Bowl Championship Series, more commonly referred to as the BCS.

The University of Oklahoma earned a coveted bid to the National Championship game and an impressive Number 1 ranking after a decisive win over Missouri in the Big 12 Championship. OU will face Number 2 Florida in Miami on January 8. The game is sure to be a crowd-pleaser as both quarterbacks - OU’s Sam Bradford and Florida’s Tim Tebow - are strong contenders for the 2008 Heisman.

After dropping the SEC Championship game to Florida, 12-1 Alabama will play undefeated Utah in the Sugar Bowl. The game will be played in New Orleans January 2.

The Rose Bowl is expected to be a classic, as Number 8 Penn State will meet

Number 5 USC on January 1, in Pasadena, California.

The Orange Bowl will feature Big East Champion Cincinnati and ACC Champ Virginia Tech. The game is scheduled for January 1 in Miami.

Texas, disappointed after not receiving the invitation to play for the Big 12 Championship, will face a 10-2 Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl, played January 5 in Glendale, Arizona. UT’s quarterback Colt McCoy is considered by many to be the frontrunner in this year’s Heisman race.

Oklahoma State made a surprising showing this season, and earned a bid to the Holiday Bowl to play Oregon. The game will be aired on ESPN and will be played December 10 in San Diego.

Texas Tech will also have an opportunity to make up for a disappointing season end with a shot at Ole Miss in the Cotton Bowl, played January 2 in Dallas. Tech’s quarterback Graham Harrell is also considered a candidate for the Heisman.

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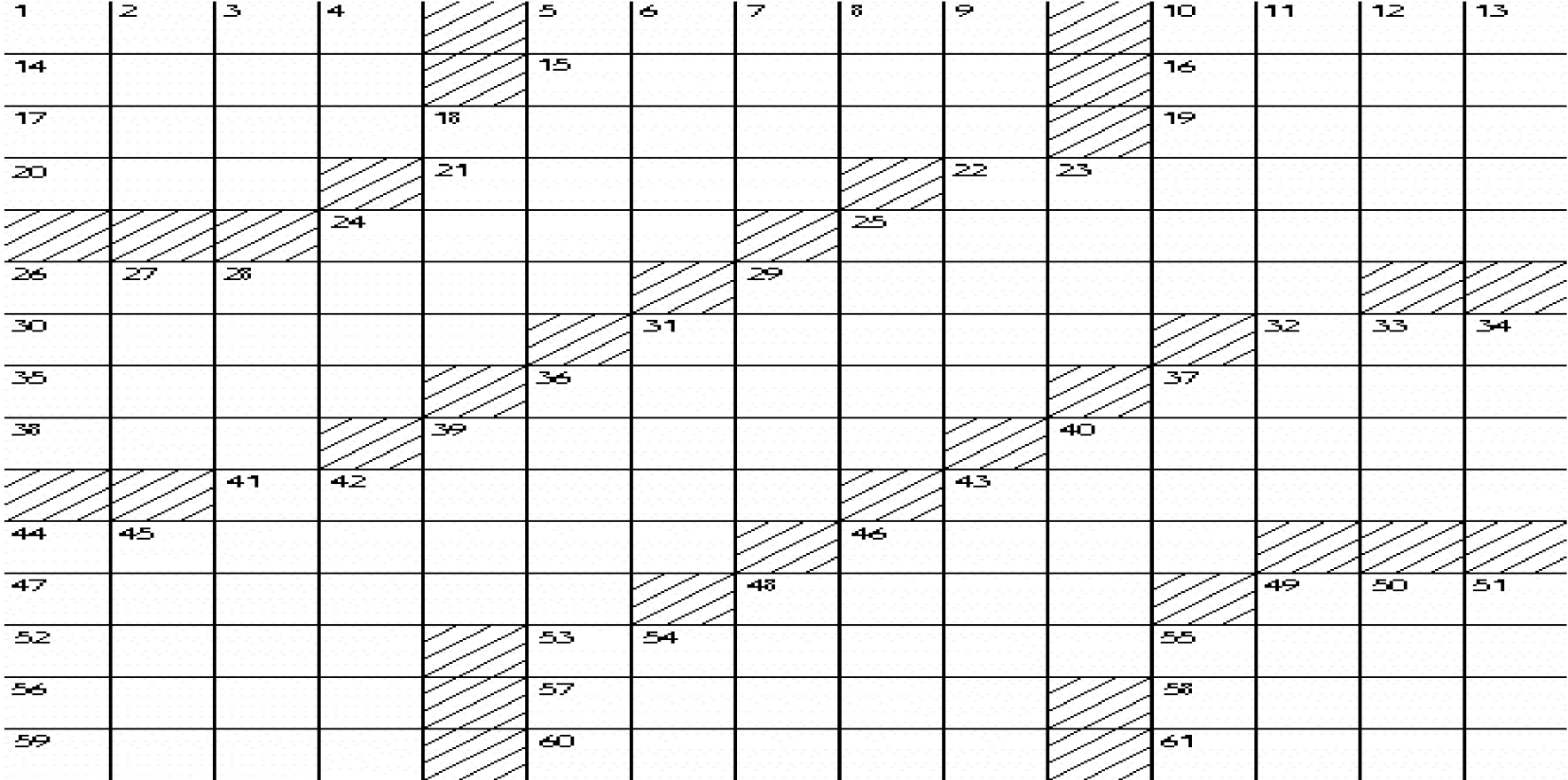
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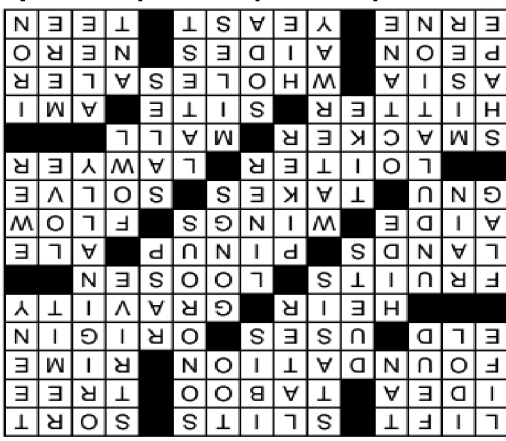
ACROSS

- 1. Raise
- 5. Long narrow openings
- 10. Class
- 14. Notion
- 15. Forbidden
- 16. Tall woody plant
- 17. Understructure
- 19. Frost
- 20. Old age
- 21. Purposes
- 22. Beginning
- 24. Inheritor
- 25. It holds us down
- 26. Apples and pears
- 29. Make less taut
- 30. Territories
- 31. Photographer's model
- 32. Beer
- 35. Assistant
- 36. Birds have them
- 37. Current
- 38. African antelope
- 39. Carries off
- 40. Work out
- 41. Hang around
- 43. Attorney
- 44. A loud kiss
- 46. Shopping center
- 47. Batter in baseball
- 48. Location
- 49. French for "Friend"
- 52. Largest continent
- 53. Merchandise jobber
- 56. Unskilled laborer
- 57. Anagram of "Aside"
- 58. A Roman emperor
- 59. Coastal raptor
- 60. Bakery bunny



DOWN

- 1. Long prison sentence
 - 2. False god
 - 3. Clash of clans
 - 4. A browning of the skin
 - 5. Static balance
 - 6. Not now
 - 7. Nile bird
 - 8. Also
 - 9. Full and loud and deep
 - 10. Endeavor
 - 11. In the beginning
 - 12. Send, as payment
 - 13. Minuscule
- 18. Songs for two
 - 23. Coarse file
 - 24. Conceal
 - 25. Chimes
 - 26. Stars and Stripes
 - 27. Precipitation
 - 28. Wavelike motion
 - 29. Large commercial ship
 - 31. Tightwad
 - 33. Passion
 - 34. Pitcher
 - 36. Canal
 - 37. Poultry
- 39. Child
 - 40. Periods of discounted prices
 - 42. A hydrocarbon found in petroleum
 - 43. Most recent
 - 44. Form
 - 45. Hoarder
 - 46. Units of distance
 - 48. Fizzy drink
 - 49. On the safe side, at sea
 - 50. No more than
 - 51. Press laundry
 - 54. Hasten
 - 55. Picnic insect



Word Search courtesy of mirroreyes.com



- apart

color

custard

dash

diner

diverse

endless
- fire

fish

foot

fruit

garlic

great

heavy

here
- lose

maze

meals

owner

pioneer

place

pore
- sauce

sees

shirt

shop

sire

smell

sour

speak

spicy

stall
- tear

test

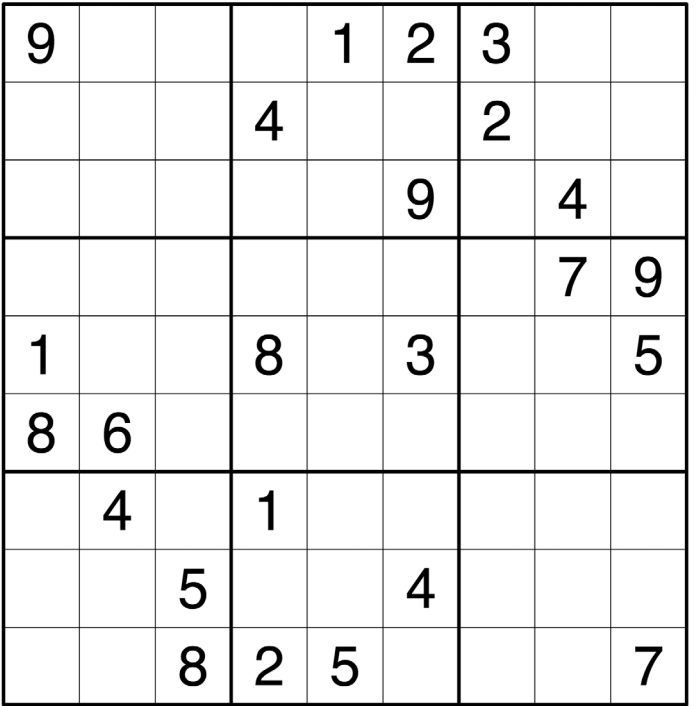
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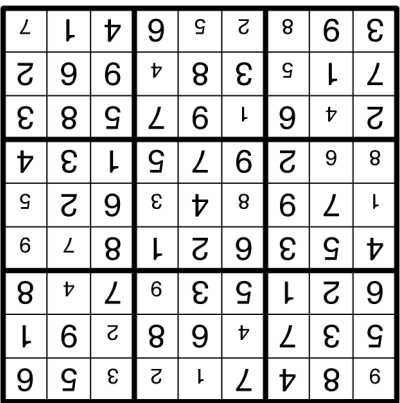
voice

world

Sudoku



Sudoku: Number puzzle in which numbers must be fit into a 9x9 grid such that each numeral appears exactly once in each row, column and each of nine 3x3 blocks



off the mark .com by Mark Parisi

